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## **Prudhoe Bay GC2 Spill Incident Unified Command Joint Information Center (JIC)**

**JIC Contact: 907-564-4335**

**NEWS RELEASE—March 10, 2006**

### **Media Update 6: Unified Command Arrives at Spill Volume Estimate**

**Anchorage**—Based on GPS mapping and surveyor calculations, the Unified Command estimates that between 201,000 to 267,000 gallons of crude oil spilled as a result of the Gathering Center 2 transit line leak at Prudhoe Bay. The actual spill volume will be determined only after cleanup is completed and oil that has been collected is measured. To date, crews have recovered 52,920 gallons based on actual measurements of recovered fluids.

A surveying team worked Monday through Wednesday to gather information. Surveyors probed the spill area to determine the oil thickness and verify the extent of the impacted area. This information, along with topographic mapping data, was inputted into a computer program to develop the volume estimate.

Clean-up operations continue around the clock in adverse weather conditions, with temperatures sometimes reaching 50 to 70 degrees below zero with the wind chill. A snow and ice ramp has been built to protect sensitive areas at the lake's edge. A plan for gross snow and liquid removal and tundra treatment should be completed today. Ultrasonic testing of the damaged area of the pipe was completed late Wednesday evening and a 6-foot-long sleeve was bolted into place yesterday. Preparations are being made to weld the sleeve permanently in place today, weather permitting.

A fact-finding investigation is being conducted with a team including BP Alaska and State of Alaska representatives.

Photos of the response effort, fact sheets, diagrams and maps are available on the Unified Command website at [www.dec.state.ak.us](http://www.dec.state.ak.us). (Click on GC2 Oil Transit Line Spill.) In addition, information is available on the BP Exploration response website at [www.piersystem.com/go/site/1112](http://www.piersystem.com/go/site/1112). Interested parties can submit questions via this site.

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